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Ministry of Environment & Mekong Future Initiative

PRESENTS

CAMBODIA CLIMATE CHANGE SUMMIT 2022 REPORT

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Introduction

October 2022 saw the launch of the Cambodia Climate Change Summit (CCCS22), a three-day event organized by The Ministry of Environment together with the Mekong Future Initiative under the core themes of sustainability and collaboration.

Held in Siem Reap at the Borei Angkor Hotel on the 17, 18 & 19th of October, CCCS22 highlighted the progress the Kingdom of Cambodia has made toward climate-related issues.

Contributing to the event was a diverse range of stakeholders, including government officials, international ambassadors, civil society organizations, youth groups, and leading actors from the private and public sectors.

Opening remarks by H.E and Minister of Environment Say Samal noted that CCCS22 is a one-of-a-kind event, which is important for recognizing Cambodia's progress so far, but also to collaborate moving forward for a more sustainable future.

“It is important to look at the progress made by Cambodia and share the best practices for making the Kingdom greener and more resilient to the negative effects of climate change. However, serious issues remain, such as the need to increase finance our ambitions that will enable us to fight and adapt in the face of climate change issues.”

“Cambodia has been doing its best to help reduce the emission of greenhouse gases, joining multiple multilateral high-level agreements from around the world.”

“We have become the first country in the ASEAN to submit a long-term strategy for carbon neutrality by 2050. This shows that we are committed to building a green, resilient and sustainable pathway forward for Cambodia. We have seen that as we emerge from this pandemic, private and public investment in green technology has increased and this will spur innovation in this sector, and we encourage collaboration and technology transfer. To continue our adaptation, we need to explore the potential of finance and the transfer of technology to implement new clean value chains,” Samal said.

The mission of CCCS22 was to advance the national discourse on climate-related issues in the Kingdom of Cambodia and provide an opportunity for increased coordination among climate change professionals.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, US Ambassador W Patrick Murphy said The United States is committed to leading and taking bold action to confront the climate crisis and strengthen energy security.

“At COP26, President Biden announced \$3 billion in adaptation financing to reduce climate change impacts on those most vulnerable. Through regional initiatives under our Mekong-U.S. Partnership, we are expanding green energy solutions and working with regional officials to address waste management issues.”

“In Cambodia, the United States has invested over \$100 million in foreign assistance focused on combating climate change, including facilitating the sale of more than \$40 million in carbon credits to U.S. companies such as The Walt Disney Company and Delta Airlines. In the last five years, USAID Cambodia’s agriculture and environment activities have helped Cambodian farmers apply climate-smart agricultural practices and eliminated an estimated 25 million tons of greenhouse gas emissions, the equivalent of taking almost five million cars off of the road for a year.”

“At U.S. Embassy in Phnom Penh, renewable rooftop solar energy supplies over 10 percent of our power, with more to come, and we have installed a charging station to accommodate our electric vehicle and to transition to additional EVs. Our energy efficiency initiatives and active recycling and composting programs ensure that we do our part to maintain a healthy and vibrant environment in the Kingdom,” he added.

The event was unique, becoming the first-ever climate change summit in Cambodia to completely neutralize its carbon footprint thanks to a tree planting activity organized in partnership with the Apsara Authority.

Speaking on how the event took steps to demonstrate sustainability, Director General of Mekong Future Initiative Allen Dodgson Tan said it is his pleasure to be hosting the first-ever in-person and carbon-neutral summit in Cambodia.”

“This has been possible by not only our commitment to planting enough trees to neutralize the impact of the summit but also by taking steps to reduce and reuse resources where possible. We have done this by eliminating printed PVC backgrounds and banners, switching to digital for our programs and other materials and implementing a reuse strategy for things like name cards so that they are used in other events in the future.”

“We have also agreed with the venue hosting this event, Borei Angkor Hotel, to stop giving plastic bottled water to guests, which they will adopt as a policy going forward. It’s steps towards sustainability through collaboration like this that we can share that will reduce our negative impact on the planet.”

He finished that CCCS22 would like to thank the Ministry of Environment as well as Cambodia's leading experts and practitioners, esteemed guests and all participants for sharing their insights and insights around climate change mitigation.

At the event, the summit also gave the floor to some of the hardest hit by climate change, hosting a Youth Summit which involved hundreds of students, community representatives, civil society organizations and leading development actors, with support from from Impact Hub, Asian Vision Institute, Khmeng Prey (Oxfam), and Cambodia Green Future.

The Summit has featured over a dozen sessions on topics including Renewable Energy, Green Finance/Climate Finance, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and Environmental Technological Innovations across a wide range of industries such as Agriculture, Transport, Tourism, and Commerce. There was also a 20-booth exhibitor's fair for local Sustainable Solutions & Projects in Cambodia as well as presentations, discussions, forums, demonstrations, panel/round table talks, networking opportunities, and much more.

The Ministry of Environment was the official event host, providing thought leadership throughout the planning process in partnership with MFI, who were in turn responsible for CCCS22 partnership campaigns and program development.

The official partner and sponsor of CCCS22 was USAID, with further sponsorship support received from Forte Insurance, Heineken, Oxfam Cambodia & Smart Axiata.

Partners of the event included The American Embassy, The Australian Embassy, The British Embassy, BritCham, YEAC, and iDE Globe.

Event Sessions

International Policy

Ministry of Environment, USAID,
British Embassy and Australian Embassy

The first event of the day was a talk on International Policy, delivered in collaboration by the Ministry of Environment, USAID, and the British and Australian Embassies, discussing issues such as how to access green aid and regarding further collaboration between nations moving forward.

Opening the discussions, Minister of Environment, H.E Tin Ponlok, said addressing climate change will solve lots of issues.

“We are in negotiation and relationships with the major economies around the world in the area of climate change. We are committed to climate agreements and are party to all national agreements, especially those agreed in Paris in 2016. Like other developing countries, we have accepted that these goals are for the common good. The challenge for us now has been to access funds as a developing country to reach these goals.”

Speaking on Cambodia’s renewable energy (RE) options during the session, Australian Ambassador Mr. Kang said that Cambodia has a unique opportunity to ensure real energy security which will benefit economic sustainability.

“When governments make decisions about their energy supplies, they need to think about the affordability for citizens, the reliability of the supply, and the energy security they provide.”

“Issues like the global climate crises and the war in Ukraine, the latter of which has led to a significant rise in the price of coal and gas, show that fossil fuels are not reliable.”

He said in Cambodia, there is already some 61 per cent installed capacity from renewable energy, and further investment could see the Kingdom become energy self-sufficient, negating the need to import expensive fossil fuels.

“Also, developments in RE technology mean the price of clean energy like solar, is becoming cheaper and cheaper, unlike coal. Switching to clean energy makes sense from security, cost, and reliability perspective.”

British Ambassador Dominic Williams agreed that on climate change, bold action is needed.

“It felt bold – and entirely appropriate – to drive our flag car, the fully electric Jaguar I-pace, for the first time from Phnom Penh to Siem Reap to join the Cambodian Climate Change Summit. This event is a great opportunity to bring together government, civil society and the private sector to identify ways of driving forward the green energy transition in Cambodia.”

CEE Energy Comp

Cambodia Clean Energy Competition presented by Sevea Consulting

CEE Comp is a self-sustaining, multi-year campaign that will help boost energy efficiency in Cambodia and is born from the alliance between IFPEB, the creator of CUBE, ITC and Sevea.

Based on IFPEB’s competition format, ITC’s paramount role in the Cambodian education system and public sector, and Sevea’s expertise in the sector of sustainable development, together they aim to bring energy efficiency at the core of Cambodian citizens’ daily life.

Speaking on behalf of Sevea Consulting, Daniella Chehade said, “The Cambodia Energy Efficiency Competition (CEE Comp) is a multi-year gamified competition developed to facilitate energy efficiency by behaviour change.

“It allows private companies to compete on energy savings annually whereby the closing of a very successful first edition has come to an end. Nonetheless, CEE Comp strives to transpire as a mechanism used to accelerate the adoption of an energy-efficient culture.”

“This is critical to reduce ecological impact and advance climate mitigation measures. It will similarly aid in meeting the soon-to-be-issued National Energy Efficiency targets for Cambodia. Furthermore, prospects include expanding to more sectors of industry and eventually including a range of actions within the realm of resource efficiency. ”

Corporate Thought Leaders

Forte, Heineken & Smart Axiata

The morning sessions rounded off with valued private sector partners speaking on their companies commitments to sustainable business and reducing their negative impact on the environment.

The talk was opened by Richard Chen, Director of the Sustainable Economic Growth Office at USAID, who was joined by Suy Chantharong, Chief Underwriting Officer at Forte Insurance (Cambodia) Plc, Anne De Graaf, Corporate Affairs Director at Heineken Cambodia and Chem Srey Oeun, Head of Corporate Affairs at Smart Axiata.

When asked by Richard Chen, all leaders agreed that building sustainability into private sector operations is key to mitigating the effects of climate change.

Chem Srey Oeun said that Smart has taken various steps to incorporate sustainability, using the example of the changes in their product offerings.

“We have introduced new E-sim cards, which reduce the waste packaging that comes when someone orders a new sim card. We have delivered some 8 million sim cards in Cambodia so reducing excess packaging will have a very positive impact on the environment. We have also promoted E-top up methods and e-wallets. By going digital, we can reduce the need to produce materials in the first place, further lowering our impact,” Srey Oeun said.

Speaking on why it was important for the private sector to participate in events like CCCS22, Suy Chantharong of Forte said that he was aware that as a company they needed to give back to society and was why they wanted to participate in the summit.

“We have a corporate commitment, which we have demonstrated through our tree planting activities and educational programs in schools, teaching the next generation about the importance of protecting the environment,” Suy said.

“At Forte we have also been carrying out training and awareness programmes for farmers and agricultural organizations in line with our agriculture insurance product. This product is

helping farmers protect themselves against economic shocks caused by natural disasters, which means creates more sustainable farming practices in the country,” he added. Chem Srey Oeun, Head of Corporate Affairs at Smart Axiata.

When asked about what the private sector can do more, Anne of Heineken said it is important for us all to look at ways in which we can do more.

“For us, we can look at the way we produce our products, such as moving production locally to reduce our transportation impact. We think events like this are important as we want to listen, learn and share ideas on climate change mitigation. Togetherness is key as we all work towards the common goal of creating a sustainable future,” Anne said.

Net Zero Pathways

USAID - Green Invest Asia

The first panel discussion of the day was opened around The Prime Minister of Cambodia's announcement of the "Long-Term Strategy for Carbon Neutrality (LTS4CN)" at the 2020 United Nations Climate Ambition Summit.

Talks covered how the LTS4CN will serve as a roadmap document based on a comprehensive analysis and modelling of the country's relevant economic sectors and how it will outline priority mitigation actions for each sector to achieve the country's goal of a carbon-neutral economy by 2050.

This session then explored how the strategy builds on current commitments and how it aims to balance carbon reductions, economic growth, social justice, and climate resilience, with a particular focus on the role that forest conservation, sustainable land use, and how promotion of low-carbon agricultural production systems are crucial for Cambodia to achieve its carbon neutrality vision by 2050.

The first USAID session of the day was centered around Zero Net Pathways, with experts including Mr. Barry Flaming, Senior Agriculture, Forestry, & Other Land Use (AFOLU) Advisor Pact, Inc. / USAID Green Invest Asia, Rithiny Teng, National Strategic Initiatives Manager at the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) and Jens Peterson, Director, Investments at New Forests.

Mr Jens Peterson said that a big issue is the inability of developing countries to develop in the same way that other countries did previously.

“Developing countries face the issue that they are not being allowed the same space and opportunity to expand in the way developed countries have because of climate change. It is

difficult because rich countries have been allowed to pollute and become rich from it, but now with the urgency of climate change mitigation developing countries' Damage payments will be on the agenda and that will be difficult."

"However, therein lies the opportunity for Cambodia. They don't need to follow the mistakes of developing countries, or they can at least learn from them. Moving forward, if they focus on building green and sustainable economies, they could leapfrog those which rely on fossil fuels," he added.

The discussion then covered the Long-Term Strategy for Carbon Neutrality, with emphasis on the importance of improved land use in terms of forestry and agricultural production.

This included the major opportunities in the agriculture sector to contribute to Cambodia's LTS4CN and the specific challenges and barriers to action need to be overcome to realize these opportunities.

The talks also covered the role of private sector investment in helping achieve the ambitious vision of the LTS4CN and the current challenges in realizing the contributions of the private sector which could further accelerate the progress.

Finally, the session wrapped up with points concerning current policies, investments, programs, and activities underway that are contributing to achieving the government's climate objectives.

ECO Tourism

BritCham

BritCham Cambodia organised the panel discussion on eco-tourism, which was hosted by Executive Director, Jane Wilding.

She was joined by a panel of experts in the field, namely H.E. Dr. CHUK Chumno, Spokesperson and Director of the Department of Tourism, Product Development of Ministry of Tourism, Nick Ray, Lonely Planet writer & international tourism consultant, Jemma Bullock, Program Manager for the Elephant Valley Project and Mony Sang, Interim CEO for Sam Veasna Conservation Tours.

This discussion was aimed at answering the difficult question, addressing Cambodia's rural landscape and relatively undisturbed protected areas, which was namely how to balance developing eco-tourism, creating much-needed jobs and revenues, while protecting its natural habitats.

The panel were very much of a consensus opinion. While the opportunities for Eco-Tourism in Cambodia are very much apparent, for both domestic and international visitors.

The balance needs to be addressed by creating income streams for the local communities, giving them incentives to protect their natural environment and actually pricing Eco Tour activities at a level that allows for revenue to be ploughed back into both the Eco Tour projects and the local communities

The challenge that still presents a barrier to the growth of Eco-Tourism in Cambodia, is mainly access, many of these projects are in remote locations with limited travel choices.

The aim of solving this access issue is to be able to include visits to these superb Eco projects into tourist itineraries, to encourage visitors to extend their length of stay in the Kingdom and to see more of Cambodia than the regular 3-day visit to our National Treasure, Angkor Wat

Supporting Cambodia's Clean Energy Transition

Australian Embassy

This session was organised to discuss Cambodia's efforts towards emissions reduction and economic goals, in recognition of the need for more infrastructure, policy development and capacity building.

The talks, which were organized by the Australian Embassy and Moderated by Australian Ambassador Pablo Kang, included guest speakers Bridget Macintosh, Co-founder of EnergyLab, H.E. Keo Rottanak, Minister attached to the Prime Minister and Managing Director Electricité du Cambodge, Ms. Mola Tin.

Opening the session, H.E. Keo Rottanak said, "We are proud of where we are at currently in Cambodia. Renewables stand at 61% of our power supply. Cambodia's footprint is infinitely tiny, yet we are still making progress, especially through our international commitments, such as those made at COP26."

At COP26, Cambodia pledged to build no more coal power plants, no more hydropower on the Mekong mainstream and focus on the development of renewable energy.

"At the ASEAN 10, the committee committed itself to 35% renewable power. Cambodia is at 61%. We will maintain at any given time more than 60%, by combining different renewables and importing some from neighbors such as Laos, that have advantages in terms of wind."

The panel also talked about Cambodia's evolving infrastructure requirements and discussed the importance of climate resilience in economic development.

Panellists wrapped up the event by talking on the challenges and opportunities in developing infrastructure projects to support Cambodia’s economic development and energy transition against the backdrop of global action against climate change.

Climate-resilient Horticulture Technologies and Practice

iDE Global

This session covered different technologies and practices which have been introduced by CADF-CSmart project various provinces across Cambodia.

The session was led by Mr. Tuot Senghorng, Manager at iDE Global.

He said, “During our session in the CCCS22 event, after a short introduction of our CADF-CSmart project, we discussed our promoted technologies and practices that help farmers better deal with the adverse weather events in their horticultural production (e.g. water, temperature and wind-related), and increase their business profit at the same time. Additionally, we also shared our results, encountered constraints/challenges, and lesson learned, that might be helpful for all the CCCS22 participants.

It is important to note here that, CSmart including the previous CADF projects is about CHANGE. We are helping farmers to accept and adopt CHANGE in their attitudes and behaviors toward improved and climate-resilient farming practices, become resilient to adverse weather events and increase their business profit at the same time.

Speaking on why it is important, he said that the current CSmart has pioneered numerous climate-smart technologies in Cambodia with a focus on profitable production that is safe for producers, consumers, and the environment for at least 17 years with continued grant from the New Zealand Aid Programme.

“It is crucially important for us to share with CCCS22 participants what we have learned and succeeded to for hand in hand helping smallholder farmers to become resilient to adverse weather events and changing the weather patterns.”

“With climate change comes the unpredictability of traditional weather patterns. Cambodia is becoming more prone to both droughts and floods, due to increasing unpredictability and erratic variations in rainy or dry season onset, duration, or severity. This caused negative effect on crop production, productivity, and quality of the produce, thus farm profit.”

“Our promoted technologies and practices are highly relevant to climate-change adaptation. Aside from climate change adaptation, the result of adoption of these inputs and practices will be lengthened growing periods—which we variously call “off-season”, “any-season”, or “all-season” production—with greatly increased yearly profit. Taken as a whole, simply

improving farm income and profit through these technologies and practices go a long way toward achieving resilience.”

He said the iDe Global aims to contribute to the Royal Government of Cambodia’s development priorities by improving climate-change resilience, smallholder incomes, rural economic development, and domestic vegetable security by replacing regional imports.

“Climate resilience will be enhanced as climate-smart horticulture technologies and practices are adopted widely by small-scale farmers and supported by sustainable market systems.”

He ended the session with two final points. Firstly, that economic resilience will be increased by the income earned by farmers and market actors, stronger rural-urban trade linkages, and diversification of horticulture crops with expanded growing seasons. Secondly, that social resilience will be improved by increasing farm income and by providing nearby employment opportunities for rural households, reducing the family and community disruption caused by migrating labour.”

Electric Vehicles

Various

The talk on electric vehicles was joined by several sector experts, including, Mr. Pawan Nyayapati, Director at PwC, Mr. Kjeld Olsen, Director at Car4you, Mr. Richard Yim, CEO at Quantum Engineering and Manufacturing and Mr. Andy Chun, Country Director VW&C Co., Ltd. (Cambodia).

Mr Chun said that his company is involved in the EV sector because of their commitment to develop Zero-Carbon lifestyle options for the "exhausted" planet.

“EV offers an alternative to convention vehicles which contributes to the mitigation of emissions. The EV market is still in it's infancy in Cambodia, because policies and incentives need to be formulated and developed by the government. However, events like this will continue to raise awareness and understanding of the advantages of E-Mobility to the general public, so they can take advantage of the opportunity EVs offer.”

He said that this, in turn, will spur private sector investment into E-Mobility manufacturing, assembly and charging infrastructure in the Kingdom, as they begin to recognise the growing demand for EV products.

Talking about the challenges the EV sector faces, Mr. Olsen said some have been overcome but some still need to be addressed.

“It used to be that people worried if EVs were safe to drive in the rain and floods. This has now been proven, but the next issue is the distance they can travel. People in Cambodia want to know if they can get to their hometowns. Therefore, having charging stations will be necessary to boost consumer confidence.”

“Right now, families are buying EVs as their second or third car. However, we need to change the mindset of EVs as the most convenient, as it is already proven as the most economical. Also, Cambodian companies have not started thinking about EV commercial vehicles and this, along with policy changes like reducing high tax prices, will help the market,” he added.

Mr. Chun finished with an important point.

“EV can be key industry players to mitigate GHGs, especially Transportation sector. We here are competitors in the Cambodia EV market, however all of us can be partners for EV battery recycle agenda.

Energy Efficiency & Market Opportunities

British Embassy

Organized by the British Embassy and moderated by UK Ambassador, Dominic Williams, this event included guest speakers Ms. Eloise Burnett, Senior Asia Manager of The Carbon Trust, Mr. Richard Scotney, Director of USAID Sustainable Economic Growth Office USAID, Ms. Daniella Chehade, Energy Consultant at Sevea Consulting and Mr. Rogier Van Mansvelt, Project Lead Switch-Garment at the Global Green Growth Institute.

This session was designed to bring forward the current activities in Cambodia which offset growing energy demand and CO2 emissions growth and look to the future of energy efficiency in the Kingdom.

Speaking at the event, Ms. Burnett said currently the barriers that Cambodia faces in energy efficiency (EE) are technical capabilities, low awareness and demand, access to capital for EE investments, and the correct rules and regulations that allow that to happen.

“There is some fantastic foresight from the Cambodian government and some great plans to drive progress, but there will be to be the issues addressed first before they can be realized.”

“Energy efficiency is different in every cultural context, in Cambodia is very much about saving money. So, it is about making sure that we are reaching the right touchpoints within the Kingdom. Risk sharing, market development and capital raising are key parts of our push towards making energy efficiency important in the region.”

The session also covered topics such as energy efficiency in the wider ASEAN context, the ISave Awareness campaign and addressed other elements of the EE framework.

The session also covered on the role of the private and public sectors in driving EE in Cambodia, and how that may be affected by the current energy market volatility.

Finally, the session wrapped up with talks on how to unlock EE's job creation potential and how to great greater demand for EE solutions.

Joint Efforts to Safeguarding the Mekong's Aquatic Resources and Ecosystems

Oxfam

This talk covered multiple threats facing the Mekong Basin due to the accumulative effects of climate change and increased upstream dams as well as other human-made activities such as deforestation, sand mining, extensive irrigation for agriculture and wetland conversion.

These factors have had huge impacts on the natural flow of the Mekong water which has crucial importance for agriculture, aquatic resources and critical ecosystems, water for consumption and the livelihoods of the people.

Guest speakers included Mrs. Phean Sophoan, the National Director of Oxfam in Cambodia, Dr. Digby James Wren, Senior Special Advisor on International Relations Institute of Cambodia, Royal Academy of Cambodia, H.E. Mr. Kol Vathana, Deputy Secretary General of the Cambodia National Mekong Committee (CNMC), Mr. Hong Chamnan, Director at the MoE Wetlands Conservation Department, Mr. Seng Teak, Country Director at WWF Cambodia and Dr. Heng Kong, Director of Inland Research and Development Institute (IFReDI) with Oxfam.

A recent MRC council study that was discussed at the talks indicated that the hydropower projects in the Mekong Basin reduce wet season and increase dry season flows under normal operation (with the exception of extreme climatic conditions), reducing flood damage but introducing negative effects on riparian ecosystems, sustainability, and food security associated with fish production, reduced sediment and nutrient transport downstream. Cambodia floodplains, the Tonle Sap system, and the Mekong Delta in Viet Nam are the most vulnerable areas.

The talks were centred around exploring how good governance of Mekong water resources is crucial to sustaining their critical ecosystems (eg. Mekong Irrawaddy Dolphin) and the livelihoods of millions of water resource-dependent communities.

Also discussed was the progress the Royal Government of Cambodia has made to protect and conserve natural resources in infrastructure projects while addressing the complex challenges of climate change and the development needs of a youthful and aspirational Cambodian population.

The talks covered three central topics in relation to the issue. Firstly, to raise awareness among the public and river-dependent communities and call for more active participation and joint efforts to sustain the Mekong's ecosystems and aquatic resources. Secondly, to hear different views/perspectives from relevant experts and conservationists on possible ways to safeguard Lower Mekong's aquatic resources and ecosystems. Finally, the session heard the different views of experts on how Cambodia could improve transboundary cooperation to manage and safeguard the Mekong's water resources and ecosystems.

Accessing Climate Finance

USAID - Green Invest Asia

This session, in partnership with implementing partner Mekong Strategic Partners (MSP), covered the initiative of conceptualizing, designing and launching the Cambodia Climate Finance Facility (CCFF), to capitalize on climate finance in Cambodia, with support from the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the Cambodian Government.

A statement from USAID said, "the CCFF will support and enable Cambodia's shift towards a greener economy and society, boosting its resilience to the impacts of climate change. This session will explore the challenges and processes for such an ambitious undertaking."

Moderators at the event were John McGinley, Strategic Advisor, USAID Green Invest Asia/MSP and Mrs. Sothira Seng, Project Management Specialist- Environment and Climate Change of USAID in Cambodia. They were joined by a panel of experts which included Mr. Jeudi Thay, Director of Green Finance Department at the Agricultural and Rural Development Bank (ARDB), Mr. John McGinley, Mekong Strategic Partner Director, Mr. Colin Moore, Regional Carbon Advisor at the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) and Dr. Kim Geheb, Senior Scientist at the Center for International Forestry Research

The first topic covered at the session was focused on the challenges, efforts, and progress toward the establishment of a Green Financing Facility for Cambodia.

This included questions such as why is the CCFF the right thing for Cambodia now, how mainstreaming Climate Change into national-level urban-related policies helps in securing Climate Finance in Cambodia and how the CCFF source and establish the blended finance link between public and private climate finance flows.

The session finished with talks about the challenges the climate finance facilities have faced in dispersing funds and how important a national approach is towards mitigating the challenge of low disbursement.

Community-Driven Approaches for Climate Resilience

USAID Cambodia

This session focused on giving a voice to the communities involved directly in mitigating climate resilience at a local and national level.

Speakers at the event included experts from the private sector, as well as community, government, and civil society representatives, who came together to discuss their practical experience addressing climate risks through various adaptation and mitigation strategies.

During the talks, panellists highlighted investments being made by the private sector, development partners, and the Cambodian government to build local resilience, conserve natural resources, and improve livelihoods.

Expert speakers at the event included Mr. Menglim Kim, Mission Environmental Officer at USAID Cambodia, Mrs. Doung Chantrea, Deputy Chief at Aphivat Thmey Beong Char Agriculture Cooperative, Ms. Meth Malen, Chief of Phnom Chroap Trey Ksan Community Protected Area, Mrs. Thorng SreyOun, Council Member at Chhean MukCommune, Preah Vihear, Mr. Keo Socheat, Executive Director at Samson Mlup Prey (SMP).

Green Business Forum

YEAC

A panel discussion, organized by the Young Entrepreneurs Association of Cambodia, discussed the merits of green-centred business and business practices.

Experts speakers at the event included Mr. Soth Vannak, Managing Director & Co-founder at API School, Mr. Vannak HANG, General Manager at Dara Hotels Group (Angkor Green Gardens - Park & Villa), Ms. Teng Rithiny, National Strategic Initiatives Manager at Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) and Mr. Joshua Jones, Owner of Three Corner Coffee Co., Ltd.

The aim of the discussion was to hear from the expert speakers about their take on what green business means today.

Opening up proceedings, Mr. Raksmeay talked about the change in consumer behaviours within the last 5 years on the use of solar panels, what challenges they had faced and how they were addressed.

Mr. Vannak and Mr. Jones then talked about what they have done to make their businesses greener and the lessons that could be learned from the private sector.

The panel then discussed their experience with accessing green finance, whether through direct funding or grants and what they have learned.

The session wrapped up with talks about how SMEs can work together to support each other to reduce their carbon footprint moving forward.

Sustainability Expo

Cambodia Climate Change Summit 2022 (CCCS22) featured an exhibition with 20 local and international businesses, organizations, and partners, all showcasing their innovative efforts to create and deliver sustainable efforts within the Kingdom.

Showcasing their products and projects were EGE Cambodia, USAID (GIA), USAID Morodok Baitang, USAID Greening Prey Lang, USAID Green Future Activity, Forte, Smart, Only One Planet, VeryWords, Oxfam, iDE, Quantum, Sevea Consulting, Control Union, Three Corner Coffee and Electric Vehicle company Car4you.

Running a stall at the expo, CEO of Eco Green Energy Cambodia (EGE) Vorn Chanraksmeay said EGE is very pleased to be involved in CCCS22.

“Being involved in the solar energy sector, we are passionate about mitigating the effects of climate change, which is a major issue in the world right now. We provide clean energy to farmers, locals and more. In the past, our activities have contributed significantly to the green development of the agricultural economy. We must demonstrate our potential to contribute as companies that provide clean energy services, and the value we can bring in socio-economic development,” Vorn Chanraksmeay said.

“From solar pumping systems for agriculture to off-grid solar systems in rural areas, our work has contributed significantly not only to the mitigation of climate change but to the development of agriculture, aquaculture and daily life,” he added.

Representing iDE at the expo, Director of the Cambodia Agribusiness Development Facility (CADF) Khong Sophoan said they are very happy to be attending this year’s CCCS22.

“This event presents a great opportunity to learn and to network. We strongly align with the values of sustainability in our work and therefore this is a great opportunity to find out what priority and action we should take in the future,” Khong Sophoan said.

In addition to agricultural inputs and practices that are directly relevant to climate change adaptation and mitigation, various environmentally-sound agricultural practices are being explored, trailed, and promoted through our project.

These include environmentally-sound use of pesticides, including proper disposal of wash water and containers, net and 'pergola' trellising systems resistant to wind damage, rice straw application as an alternative to agricultural plastic mulching film.

In addition, trialling compostable plastic mulching film, and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices, are also being explored including regular crop scouting for pests and diseases, and use of bio-pesticides, crop diversification, and 'Crop rotation as a Technology, soil building; composting and mobile solar pumping for watering, allowing rotation to various farm plots.

Oxfam, who had multiple involvements in the event as one of the partners, said the organization has a long history of working on climate change, promoting climate change mitigation and adaptation.

The National Director of Oxfam in Cambodia, Ms. Sophoan Phean, said: "At the CCCS22, Oxfam hosts a paralleled discussion to raise awareness about impacts of climate changes and human-made activities on the Mekong's ecosystem and aquatic resources and call for a joint effort to safeguard the Mekong's ecosystems and aquatic resources."

"We also take the opportunity to create a space for youths, experts and other stakeholders to share their experience and lesson learned to inform the strategy to promote sustainable Mekong's ecosystems and aquatic resources," Sophoan Phean said.

"Oxfam has a few other projects that contribute to climate change adaptation and mitigation. For example, In the western area of Tonle Sap, we support communities to monitor fishing areas and protect the resources, awareness raising on the harmful practices to the fisheries resources and environment, and schools to install water purification centres, eco-friendly toilets, and solar panels in communities, and community managed solid waste," she added.

Representing Sevea, Jean Pinat said the expo offers them a great opportunity to share their knowledge of the energy efficiency sector in Cambodia.

"We also are promoting the upcoming CEECOMP, the first energy efficiency competition in the private sector, which will be finishing at an event on October 28th at the Ministry of Environment," Jean Pinat said.

"We are Looking forward to catching up with all the great people we have met at CCCS22 and hope they can join CEECOMP. We also welcome the opportunity to work together with new partners we have met and help them on their sustainability path," she added.

Youth Summit

Introduction:

This year's Youth Summit was represented by over 500 students, community representatives, civil societies, non-government organizations and international development partners and opened important dialogues on youth involvement in Climate Change mitigation.

Organizing bodies included USAID Green Future Activity, the Asian Vision Institute, Impact Hub and Oxfam. Key talks at this year's event included:

The Role of Project Green Group in using Social & Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) Toolkits and Campaign

Cambodian Youths' Contribution in Promoting Sustainability

Sustainable Development Goal 17: Climate Action Movers Workshop

Tonle Sap & Mekong River Confluences: Youth's Perspectives on Livelihoods & Sustainability.

The Role of Project Green Group in using Social & Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) Toolkits and Campaign *USAID Cambodia Green Future Activity*

The first session of the Youth Summit brought together representatives of USAID Cambodia Green Future to talk on their latest efforts to reduce environmental impact through behavioural change.

Social and behavior change communication (SBCC) uses science and data as well as creative ideas to focus on changing or positively influencing social norms in support of long-term, sustainable behavior change at the population level, fostering long-term, normative shifts in behavior in support of increasing the practice of healthy behaviors, improving health services provider-client interactions and strengthening community responses to issues.

It can also be used for influencing decision-makers, family and peer networks, increasing demand for health services and products, increasing correct use of health services and products, influencing policy and encouraging an increased capacity for local planning and implementation of health improvement efforts

Speaking on the USAID SBCC programme, Youth Summit Representative Pheakdey Mengsrean said she is proud to be joining the Expo event to talk about her involvement with a USAID said they are focused on three main activities.

“Firstly, in Cambodia, we have a big problem with people cutting down trees to make luxury furniture. This threatens the forests in this country. Through SBCC we make people aware that if they purchase luxury furniture, they are meaning more people will cut down more trees. So, we aim to change people’s perception to reduce demand,” Pheakdey Mengsrean said.

“Secondly, we are running a project with students to reduce buying and eating bush meat. This has been done by creating video and social media content with calls to action. This project is also called Sai as a key influencer to reach out to the youth. Next, we plan to launch a litter reduction campaign which is scheduled for the end of this year,” she added.

Cambodian Youths' Contribution in Promoting Sustainability Asian Vision Institute

This session was designed to open a discourse about youth involvement in promoting sustainability. The session also covered AVI’s most recent sustainability and climate change action as well as an overview on the government's approach to promoting sustainability.

Participating youths were separated into groups for a 10-minute discussion on the key theme, before a 25-minute open-sharing session.

Key points discussed during the open sessions include contemporary environmental changes, what participants think the main contributors to climate change are, how young people can encourage plastic reduction and what key action can be taken to promote sustainability in everyday life.

Also, debated was the notion that if developed countries are the ones who pollute the environment the most, should they be responsible for dealing with the problem and not Cambodia?

Finally, discussions wrapped up around what young people would be willing to do themselves to support the environment, including whether they would be willing to buy products that would cost extra if they supported the environment and what they would ask the government to prioritize in order to promote sustainability going forward.

Sustainable Development Goal 17: Climate Action Movers Workshop

Impact Hub

The Movers Workshop on Climate Action was a 2-hour interactive workshop about the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) #13, namely Climate Action, which was co-developed by Youth Co:Lab in partnership UNDP Climate Promise as part of the Movers Program.

The Movers Programme is a regional movement of volunteers who develop SDGs awareness, entrepreneurial mindsets and 21st-century skills by conducting localized training at a grassroots level.

The Movers Workshop consisted of a series of activities such as facilitated group and plenary discussions, self-reflection exercises, simulations and short presentations. It also comes with curated pre and post-workshop resources to get participants more engaged with climate change.

The aim of the workshop was to help participants understand and explain the causes and consequences of climate change and the global framework in place to limit dangerous climate change, supported by further learning on climate change through curated resources.

It was also designed to connect youth from around the region within the Movers Community and spur interest in climate change mitigation. This was done by creating awareness of which aspects of climate change resonate with participants and were most relevant to them and identifying actions they could take to impact climate change.

Tonle Sap & Mekong River Confluences: Youth's Perspectives on Livelihoods & Sustainability. *Khmeng Prey (Oxfam)*

This session discussed the two interconnecting water bodies of the Tonle Sap and the Mekong River, and how the biodiverse ecosystems that they support are vital to the productivity of agriculture and fisheries and in turn, the livelihood of millions of people.

The event was moderated by Mr. Ou Ritthy, Policy Advisor of Oxfam in Cambodia, who was joined by guest speakers, Mr. Chor Chandara, Researcher at the Royal Academy of Cambodia, Ms. Rochom Munny, Member of Khmeng Prey & BSc. Student at Data science & AI, CamTech University, Ms. Po Sophea, Member of Khmeng Prey & Reporter at Thmey Thmey News and Mr. Ke Chamroeun, Member of Khmeng Prey & MA Law student Cambodia University for Specialties (CUS).

Ms. Sophoan Phean, National Director of Oxfam in Cambodia said that it is important for youth to engage in climate change talk because youth are among the vulnerable groups and they are the agent of change.

“When climate change intensifies, it is youth in the communities that face higher rates of displacement, migration, violence, and poverty. Climate change negatively affects their future more than any others.”

“Oxfam is convinced that engaging youth in climate change discussion is highly pertinent, and CCCS2022 is an excellent platform in the country for youth and young academia to share their first-hand experience, observations, and perspectives on the impacts of climate change and other factors on the two rivers’ ecosystems and communities livelihoods.”

She said that perspective-sharing and discussion seen at this year’s session reflect the reality of the communities they are working in.

“Not only have the youth begun to witness the impacts of climate change themselves directly, but now they want to raise public awareness and inform policymakers to take climate change into more serious consideration.”

“This discussion has also showcased innovative new ideas and livelihood alternatives which can help create a more sustainable way of life while protecting the water’s ecosystem for future generations.”

She said following the event, the youth have vowed to mobilize their friends in Phnom Penh and launch community projects related to educational support, eco-tourism promotion and hydroponics.

Carbon Offset

[Narrative explanation of the carbon offset process]

[Calculations from USAID]

[Key photos]

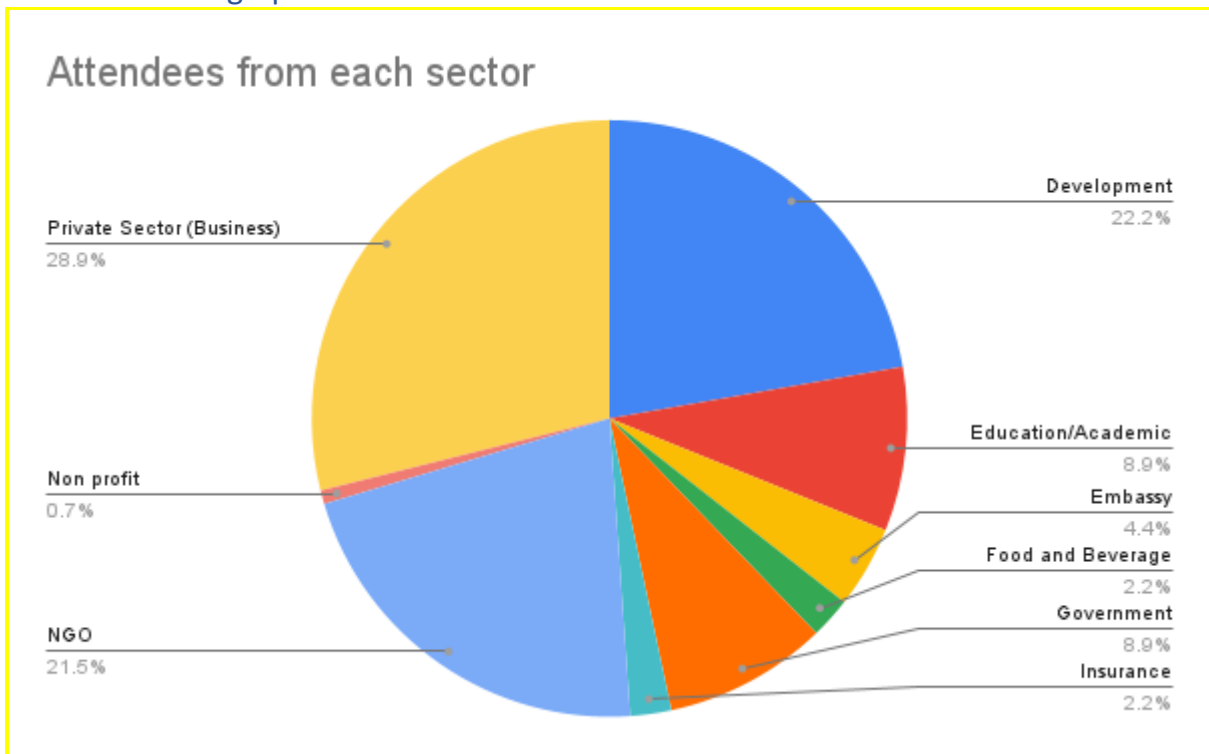
CCCS22 has calculated the estimated carbon emissions that will arise from hosting our event. In partnership with the Apsara Authority, we will be planting nearly 2000 trees in location close to Siem Reap. CCCS22 are welcome to join this activity and help plant saplings on site while learning about the Apsara Authorities’ plans and initiatives for reforestation.

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Outcomes

[Narrative of how the event was received]

Attendee Demographics



[Taken from the registration, represented as charts]

[List of Organizations attendees came from, alphabetized]

1. ARDB Bank
2. ASEAN Adventure Travel and Reality
3. Asian Vision Institute
4. ATEC International
5. ATS and CEE Comp
6. Australia Pacific International School
7. Australian Embassy
8. Beats And Pulses Pte Ltd
9. Britcham Cambodia
10. Cambodia Development Resource Institute(CDRI)
11. Cambodia SEA Games 2023 Organising Committee / National Olympic Committee of Cambodia
12. CAP-RED
13. Car4you Co.,Ltd
14. Carbon Trust
15. Causal Design
16. CE SAIN Cambodia
17. Centre for International Forestry Research
18. Cambodian National Mekong Committee (CNMC)
19. Collective Noun Global
20. Community Empowerment & Development Team (CEDT)
21. Control Union
22. CPA
23. Catholic Relief Services (CRS)
24. Dara Hotels Group (Angkor Green Gardens - Park & Villa)
25. Development and Partnership in Action (DPA)
26. EGE Cambodia
27. Electricite du Cambodge
28. Farmer and Nature Net Association (FNN)
29. Federation of Farmer Associations Promoting Family Agriculture Enterprise in Cambodia (FAEC)
30. Fisheries Action Coalition Team
31. Forte Insurance
32. Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)
33. Heineken
34. iDE Cambodia
35. Impact Hub
36. International Development Enterprises
37. International Relations Institute of Cambodia, Royal Academy of Cambodia
38. Khmer Organic Cooperative Co., Ltd.
39. Mekong Inclusive Ventures
40. Mekong Strategic Partners
41. Ministry of Environment
42. My Village (MVi)
43. National Committee of Management and Development of Tourism Communities and Eco-Tourism
44. New Forests
45. New Zealand-ASEAN Renewable Energy Facility
46. Only One Planet
47. Oxfam
48. Pacific Asia Holdings
49. Pact Inc.
50. Paragon International University
51. Plastic Free Southeast Asia
52. PwC
53. Quantum Engineering and Manufacturing
54. Sam Veasna Conservation Tours
55. Sansom Mlup Prey
56. Sevea consulting
57. Smart Axiata
58. Three Corner Coffee Co., Ltd.
59. TONTOTON
60. BritishEmbassy
61. UNCDF
62. US Embassy
63. USAID Cambodia Green Future Activity
64. USAID Green Invest Asia/Pact
65. USAID Greening Prey Lang
66. USAID Morodok Baitang (Tetra Tech ARD)
67. VDB Loi
68. VERYWORDS
69. Wild Earth Allies
70. Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)
71. WWF

Post-Event Survey

[Results from the post-event survey as table and as charts]

Financial Summary

[Table showing the sponsorship]

[Table showing the expenditure]

Appendix A. Program of Events.

[event schedule matrix]

Appendix B. Media Coverage.

[list of citations for related media coverage with links]

Cambodia Investment Review

1. October 19, 2022
[CCCS22 sees a host of local and international businesses and organizations unite on climate change mitigation](#)
2. October 20, 2022
[CCCS22 Expo showcases businesses and organizations taking on the challenge of environmental protection](#)
3. October 21, 2022
[CCCS22 holds high-level talks on financing and implementing tangible solutions to climate issues](#)
4. October 22, 2022
[CCCS22 becomes Cambodia's First-ever climate change summit to completely off-set its own carbon footprint](#)

Khmer Times

1. October 20, 2022
[Cambodia Climate Change Summit 2022 launches in Siem Reap](#)
-

Appendix C. Selected Photos.

[Selected photos with captions]